

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003415/25
to the Commission
Costas Mavrides (S&D)
(4 September 2025)**

Subject: Resubmission of Question E-002402/2025 with a request for a written answer to the Commission to be answered again

In the Commission's answer, dated 7.8.2025, to my question (E-002402/2025), ⁽¹⁾ submitted on 14.6.2025 on 'Quarrying in Pentadaktylos destroying the natural environment and amending the regulation on trade across the Green Line', the Commission makes a serious verbal blunder. Specifically, the answer refers to 'Turkish Cypriot legal texts'. This wording is unacceptable and contradicts European law and the decisions of the European courts and the UN Security Council, which have given final rulings that decisions of the Turkish-subordinate regime operating in the occupied part of the Republic of Cyprus are legally invalid and non-existent.

Furthermore, the Commission does not answer the question about the need to protect legitimate owners, businesses and environmental and other legality by including a specific provision in the regulation in question.

The Commission is asked again:

1. Will you correct the above wording?
2. Does it intend to revise the regulation to explicitly prohibit the transport of aggregates from the occupied territories, taking into account the serious impact thereof on the environment and on healthy competition in the market, and adapt the regulation's provisions to safeguard the rights of natural and legal persons, including property rights, as in the EU's other regulation on financial assistance to the Turkish Cypriot community in the occupied territories?

Submitted: 4.9.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(25 November 2025)**

The term 'legal texts' is used in Article 2 of the Aid Regulation ⁽¹⁾, which sets out the objectives of the aid programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. These objectives include 'preparation of legal texts aligned with the *acquis communautaire* for the purpose of these being immediately applicable upon the entry into force of a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem'. The Commission, while reaffirming the EU's non-recognition of the so-called 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus', is bound by adopted legislation.

As regards the second question, the Commission shares the Honourable Member's goal to protect environmental as well as health and safety standards and does not consider the revision of Council Regulation (EC) No 866/2004 ⁽²⁾ the appropriate means to achieve that goal. In addition, according to the information available, trade in aggregates across the Green Line does not currently take place.

Concerning the rights of natural and legal persons including property rights, Article 7 of the Aid Regulation requires the Commission to ensure, when implementing the regulation, that the rights of natural or legal persons, including the rights to possessions and property, are respected. The Commission systematically consults the authorities of the Republic of Cyprus to avoid infringing property rights in its actions, including actions that support trade across the Green Line.

Beyond the scope of the Aid Regulation, the Commission has no competence to ensure that property transactions in the areas in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control respect the rights of the owners concerned, due to the suspension of the *acquis* in those areas.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-002402_EL.html

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 389/2006, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32006R0389>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2004/866/oj/eng>.